

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday the 15th day of March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR AVargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Railway communication between Tellicherry and Coorg, Mysore, etc.

1369 Q.—Mr. A. D. M. BAVOTTI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the address presented to His Excellency Lord Willingdon by the Municipal Council, Tellicherry, on the occasion of His Excellency's visit to that town, whether anything has been done to provide railway communication between Tellicherry and Coorg; Mysore and Manantoddy?

A.—The reconnaissance survey of a line of railway from Shoranur to Manantoddy with a branch to Tellicherry has been completed and the report thereon received from the Agent, South Indian Railway, but there is no near prospect of railway communications with Tellicherry reaching the stage of actual construction.

Confidential reports in the Medical department.

1370 Q.—Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR-RAHMAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(i) whether confidential reports about the conduct and work of the following officers are maintained in the Medical department:—

(a) I.M.S. officers, and

(b) Provincial Civil Medical officers;

(ii) whether it is a fact that the confidential reports of I.M.S. officers are shown to them and their signatures taken in the reports before they are finally filed in the Office of the Surgeon-General;

(iii) whether it is a fact that there is no provision to obtain the signatures of Provincial Civil Medical officers in their confidential reports before they are finally filed;

(iv) why this inviolous distinction is made in the case of officers of one and the same department;

(v) whether there is a rule in the Civil Medical Code that, when a Provincial Medical officer is transferred from one district to another, a confidential report should also accompany him to the new district; and

(vi) whether it is a fact that this rule is acting detrimentally to the interests of such Medical officers by not allowing them to commence their service in their new districts with a clean slate?